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The Old Town Bay St. Louis
Artwalk returns for the
2002 season.

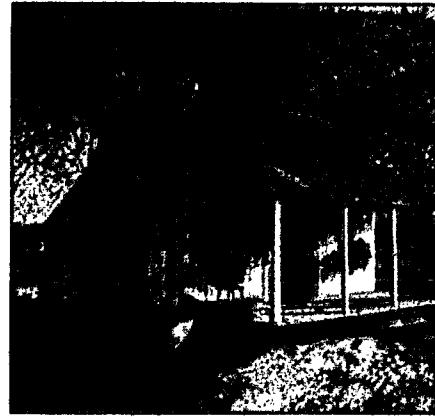
Community, Page 1B



Seven locals vie for Jr. Miss

Hancock teens go head-to-head in scholarship competition Saturday.

Inside, Page 3A



The Sea Coast Echo

Since 1892

VOL. 111, NO. 29 BAY ST. LOUIS, MISSISSIPPI

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TWO SECTIONS, 22 PAGES

75 CENTS

Thursday
April 11, 2002

Waveland, North Bay host open house Tues.

North Bay Elementary and Waveland Elementary will each host an open house Tuesday, April 16, 5:30-6:30 p.m., for parents of upcoming kindergarten students. Children must be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1 in order to attend kindergarten. For more, call: Waveland, 467-6630; N. Bay, 467-4757.

'Me and the Old Man' sporting clay tourney

There will be a father (or uncle or grandfather)-son sporting clay shooting tournament on Saturday, April 20, at 9 a.m. at the shooting range at 603 north of the red light in Kiln. Call 255-9696.

Pass library hosts student art exhibition

Pass Christian art students will exhibit their work at the Pass Library during through this month. There will be a public reception on 4/18 at 6 p.m.

WHAT'S INSIDE

Editorial Page 4A
Obituaries Page 8A
Sports Pages 3-5B
Classified Pages 6-9B

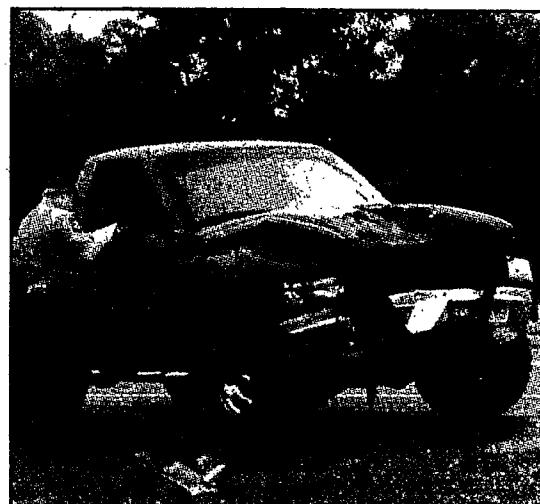
TIDES

TIDE HIGH TIDE
Tues. 12:53 p. 5:04 p.
Wed. 12:53 p. 5:04 p.
Sat. 12:53 p. 10:53 p.
Sun. 12:59 p. 11:54 p.
Mon. 1:32 p. —
Tues. 2:11 p. 12:52 a.
Wed. 2:57 p. 1:53 a.
Thurs. 3:50 p. 2:55 a.

Emergency workers speak with 80-year-old Bay St. Louis-resident Lynett Nybo Tuesday morning before removing her from her vehicle after an accident on Hwy. 90. Police say Nybo drove onto the highway from Second Street, into the path of a Dodge Ram driven by Dewayne Coleman, 25, of Cameron, La.



Coleman's vehicle sent Nybo's vehicle into a spin before it struck a third vehicle, driven by Thomas Genin, 21, of McHenry, Bay St. Louis police said. Nybo was transported to Hancock Medical Center by AMR ambulance, where she was treated for minor injuries. No one else suffered injuries that required hospital treatment. The accident is still under investigation.



An emergency worker gets a statement from Olivia Coleman, of Long Beach, a passenger in the vehicle driven by Dewayne Coleman.

Trooper found guilty of larceny

13-year MHP vet accused of keeping money paid for fines

BY ED LEPOMA
Staff Writer

A Hancock County Circuit Court jury Wednesday afternoon found a veteran state Highway Patrolman guilty of grand larceny.

Wilbert Myles, a state trooper for 13 years and a former Marine, went on trial Tuesday afternoon on one count of grand larceny. He was arrested Jan. 23, 2001, and later indicted by a Hancock County grand jury on charges he allegedly attempted to convert three money orders totaling \$259 into cash for his own benefit.

The money orders were for fines paid by residents after pleading guilty to various traffic offenses in Justice Court.

MYLES--PAGE 6A

Armed robber hits Waveland liquor store, gets away

BY ELLIS C. CUEVAS
Publisher Emeritus

Waveland Police are seeking an armed robbery suspect who entered the Gulf Coast Liquor Store around 9 p.m. Monday night, according to Police Chief Jimmy Varnell.

The armed robber is described as a black male, 6'-1" to 6'-2" tall, 220-230

ROBBER--PAGE 6A

Pass police force adds digital imager equipment to crime-fighting arsenal

\$10K device gives cops night vision, recording ability

BY ED LEPOMA
Staff Writer

The Pass Christian Police Department has a new weapon in its arsenal to fight crime and aid citizens in distress.

Police Chief John Dubuisson personally came out Tuesday to give the Echo a preview as Police Sgt./Investigator James Stewart operated the department's new thermal imager device, valued at

about \$10,000. The imager, similar to the size of a camcorder, senses heat, not light, and generates real-time video pictures in all lighting conditions, including darkness.

The preview tryout was conducted in woods near the Old Baptist Cemetery, and Dubuisson was waiting for us there when we arrived.

He told Stewart he had just relieved himself in the woods before we arrived and asked Stewart to scan the area. In less than a minute, the imager picked up heat coming from the area where Dubuisson had done what

The thermal imager was



Echo staff photo by Ed Lepoma
Pass Christian police demonstrate a new heat imaging device Tuesday.

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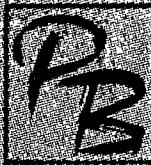
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Seven young women vie for title of Hancock County's Junior Miss

The Hancock County Jr. Miss Scholarship Program will be held Saturday, April 13 at 7 p.m. in the Commons Facility at Hancock High School.

Seven outstanding young women will compete for the title as well as a share of up to \$20,000 in possible college and cash scholarships.

The winner of the Hancock County Jr. Miss Program will advance to Mississippi's Jr. Miss program to be held in Meridian, August 1-3.

The contestants are Lacey Grimes, Natasha Arce, Kimberly Ray, Courtney Peterson, Maegan Thornton, Andrea White, and Heather Moran.

Lacey Grimes is the daughter of Don and Charlotte Herrin of Kiln and attends Hancock High. She is a United States national award winner in mathematics, was elected to *Who's Who Among American High School Students*, and is a member of the Secretary of Fellowship of Christian Athletes. She is a varsity basketball and fastpitch softball player. She serves as a student athletic trainer for football and baseball. She will be performing a character dance for her Creative & Performing Arts presentation.

Natasha Arce is the daughter of Robert Arce of White Cypress Lakes and the late Rhonda Cutright. She attends Hancock High and has competed in the Beta Club spelling competition and the Mississippi College Math and Science Tournament in biology and math. She was awarded the Academic Excellence Award in psychology and economics. She was elected into the *Who's Who Among American High School Students*. Arce is actively involved in theatre and will be presenting a dramatic monolog from "The Star-Spangled Girl" for her talent.

Kimberly Ray is the daughter of Michael and Karen Ray of Kiln and attends Hancock High. She is an honor roll student and was awarded American All-star Dancer.

She is a member of FBLA and serves as the treasurer, Hancock High School dance team, track team, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and Dancers Dream Academy competition team.

Ray will be performing a Jazz lyrical dance to "Oh So Quiet" by Bjork.

Courtney Peterson is the daughter of Larry Peterson of Kiln and the late Patricia Peterson. She attends Hancock High School where she is a member of the dance team serving as a 1st Lieutenant.

She was chosen Jolliest Junior by her classmates. She is an honor roll student and a member of Students Against Drunk Driving. She



And the candidates are ...

From left, Maegan Thornton, Heather Moran, Kimberly Ray, Lacey Grimes, Courtney Peterson, Andrea White and Natasha Arce.

will be performing a dance for her talent presentation.

Maegan Thornton is the daughter of Howard and Judy Thornton of Kiln. She is a student at Hancock High School and a member of the dance team. She was chosen as an All-Star Dancer, Miss Congeniality, American All-Star Dancer, a maid and Colleen of the Waveland Civic Association. She was a member of FBLA, SADD, FCA, CYO, and the Dance Company of Diamondhead. She will be performing a lyrical dance to "Don't Get Lost in the Crowd" by Ashley Ballard.

Andrea White is the daughter of John and Brenda White of Diamondhead. She attends Hancock High School where she serves on the Student Council. She is active in the band, field guard, tennis team, Beta Club, Mu Alpha Theta, FCA, National Honor Society and the swim team as co-captain.

She will be playing "Adagio in A Major" on the piano, composed by Alexander Morovsky.

Heather Moran is the daughter of Perry and Rita Moran of Cuevastown Road. She attends Hancock High School where she is a member of the Dance Team, FCA, and the Vo-Tech National Honor Society.

She is an honor roll student, an honor member of the Vo-Tech National Honor Society. She was chosen as an All-American Dancer, received Line Member of the Year Award, Best Showmanship, and Dance Team Officer. She will be performing a dance for her talent.

The local program is sponsored by the Hancock County Jr. Miss Association. Cash scholarships for the preliminary winners have been donated by Hoda Chiropractic Clinic, Coast Electric, B & B Tax Service, Beach Bunz Tanning Salon,

and Hancock District Teachers. The emcee for the program is Miss Lindsey Miller, Mississippi's Jr. Miss 2001. Entertainment will be provided by The Hancock High Soaring Voices, Jackie Necaise, and Arabesque School of Dance.

Miranda Compretta and **Jessica Compretta** are the program choreographers. The categories in which the contestants will be judged are scholastics (20%), interview (25%), fitness (15%), and poise (15%).

The program's goal is to honor young women who excel in all of these areas and to encourage them to continue on the path of excellence by completing their college educations and assuming roles of leadership in their communities and professions, thereby setting an example for other young women to follow.

The America's Jr. Miss program was founded in 1957 and is the oldest and largest scholarship program for high school girls.

Former participants include Diane Sawyer of ABC News (America's Jr. Miss 1963), Deborah Norville of Inside Edition (Georgia's Jr. Miss 1976), and Julie Moran, weekend anchor of Entertainment Tonight (America's Jr. Miss 1980). The AJM National finals will be held in Mobile in June 2003.

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OPINION

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2002

pg 4A



Cuevas' Quotes

by Ellis C. Cuevas

Publisher Emeritus

The Christmas in April Hancock County Project needs volunteers for Saturday, April 27.

In addition to volunteers, donations are also still needed to help purchase materials.

The project is a one-day project to rehabilitate/renovate the home of an elderly handicapped or disabled person within our community.

In recent years some 28 families in Hancock County have been helped by Christmas in April.

Last year some 100 volunteers did what needed to be done on six homes.

If you can help, your assistance will be greatly appreciated.

To volunteer or donate materials or funds, contact Becky Rotundo at 228-688-5328, or Maurice Singleton at 228-466-0402.

Donations can be mailed to Christmas in April, Hancock County Project c/o 412 Highway 90, Suite 6, Bay St. Louis, MS 39520.

Boy Scout Troop 208 is set to have its annual spaghetti and meatball dinner fund raiser on Friday, April 12, at the American Legion Post 139, Green Meadow Road, Bay St. Louis.

Scout Troop 208's spaghetti dinner fund raiser is probably one of the oldest in the area, as it has been an annual affair for many years.

American Legion Post 139 has been sponsoring Troop 208 for over 50 years.

Proceeds from the dinner will go towards helping pay for the Scouts to attend annual summer camp which this year will be held in Modena, Georgia.

Troop 208 has produced three Eagle Scouts in the last three years and has three Life Scouts presently.

working on their Eagle rank.

The dinner includes two large meatballs with sauce, spaghetti, coleslaw, garlic bread, dessert, and drink for a donation of only \$5 per plate.

The hours will be from 5 to 8 p.m. Tickets are available from any Troop 208 Scout or at the door, and yes, there will be take-outs.

For information, contact Larry Clayton at 467-7868, or Kelvin Schulz at 467-6501.

The spaghetti dinner on Friday would be a good time to get Mama out of the kitchen and also help a very worthy group of young people, Boy Scout Troop 208.

Congratulations are in order for the St. Stanislaus basketball coach and athletic director, Jay Ladner, who has been selected head coach of the South Squad in the Mississippi North/South All-Star game to be played in mid-July.

The Rocks, under Ladner's guidance, reached the semi-finals of the Class 4-A championship game this year with an undersized and inexperienced team to begin the season.

It is interesting that Jay is the son of J. Larry Ladner, who as the star of Kiln High School played in the first North/South All-Star game.

J. Larry had the honor of being the South Squad's head coach when he was head coach at Picayune before he joined the faculty of the University of Southern Mississippi.

At St. Stanislaus, Jay Ladner has done a tremendous job as head basketball coach and deserves all the praises he receives.

Larry, I know you have to be proud of Jay and his contributions to the sport of your profession.

Legislature enact's voter registration plan

At long last, we may get a computer-connected state central register of voters in Mississippi to find out how many qualified voters we actually have in this state - AND, in each county.

While the 2002 Legislature didn't do much else, it did enact in the final days legislation spearheaded by Secretary of State Eric Clark requiring all county voter rolls to be linked by a single, uniform computer system, establishing a state voter register. Practically every other state has had one for years.

There's still one major ingredient, however, that must be stirred in to make the Mississippi recipe work. It's called money. The state can't foot the bill for the necessary equipment statewide and counties won't.

Right now we're looking for Uncle Sam to pick up the tab for the statewide computerized system. Thanks to the gigantic 2000 presidential

ballot debacle, Congress has been forced to enact major reforms in the nation's election machinery.

Out of the reform - the bill has passed the House and is about to pass in the Senate - the feds will provide practically all the dough, only IF the state has a uniform register of voters in place.

Mississippi figures to get \$22.5 million over three years under the federal election reforms for equipment to establish the centralized voter registration network and purchase more accurate voting machines.

For once, Mississippi has not waited to be overtaken by the federal posse and forced to comply with national law.

And out of it we are going to get a big bonus: We'll have to clean up our voter rolls, a task Clark set out to do voluntarily four years ago. But he had little luck, partly due to the crazy quilt

of equipment in use by counties, and partly because they had no mandate to cooperate.

We're believed to have 1.7 million voters on the rolls statewide in Mississippi, but that number is fictitious. Many counties for years have not purged their rolls of persons who have died, moved away or who are now locked up in prison.

Laughably, at last count a third of state's 82 counties have more voters' names on the registration rolls than the voting age population of the county.

Using Board of Health death records and Postal Service address change information, Clark's staff two years ago had identified 140,000 names that should have been removed from the voter rolls. All he could do under old law was to pass the names on to each county election commission and leave it up to the county to remove them.

But how many voters' names were removed, Clark had no way of knowing. Some counties, he does know, have made a conscientious effort to clean up

their voter rolls.

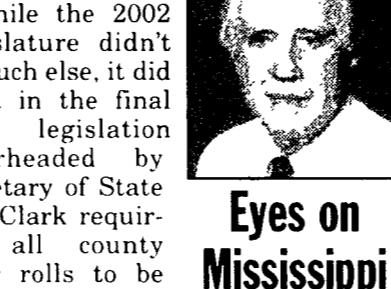
Jones County Circuit Clerk Larry Ishee, Clark said, "told me he had recently purged more than 10,000 voters off the books."

Accurate voter rolls, Clark declared, "are the first step to honest elections." The newly-enacted legislation creating a single statewide voter database will finally put teeth in the law "so we will know which [county election commissioners] are not doing the job of purging their rolls."

Along with the central voter register legislation, two other new laws were enacted, aimed at preventing the massive "over-vote" and "under-vote" fiasco such as occurred in Florida's 2000 presidential election. The three measures had come out of a bipartisan election task force Clark created in 2001.

One new law sets standards for counting legally-cast ballots that are not read by an optical scanner, but the "intent" of the voter's choice is clearly indicated. A three-member "res

MINOR--PAGE 5A



Eyes on Mississippi

By Bill Minor

There's still one major ingredient, however, that must be stirred in to make the Mississippi recipe work. It's called money. The state can't foot the bill for the necessary equipment statewide and counties won't.

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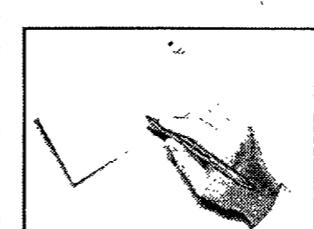
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Letters to the Editor

Our letters policy

The Sea Coast Echo welcomes comments from its readers. Letters must be signed and include address or telephone number. Letters should be brief, preferably typewritten and double-spaced. Only one letter per writer per month. The editor reserves the right to edit or reject letters. Letters of thanks, expressions of appreciation and political endorsements are inappropriate.



To the Editor:
I've said it before, but I can't say it too often - what a treasure we have in our local library!
The shelves are a treasure trove of knowledge, entertainment and research.

Dorothea Martin
Bay St. Louis

— Technicalities —

By Phil Bryant
State Auditor
GENERAL

Q May the same person serve as a county supervisor and a municipal alderman simultaneously?

A No. Article 1, Section 2 of the Mississippi Constitution prohibits simultaneous service in more than one branch of government, those branches being executive, legislative, and judicial.

Service as a county supervisor (judicial branch) and as a municipal alderman (legislative branch) would constitute a violation of Section 2 of the Mississippi Constitution.

(Attorney General's opinion to Walker dated December 21, 2001)

Q Do part-time certified officers have the same arrest and enforcement authority as full-time officers?

A Yes. (\$45-6-3, Attorney General's opinion to McWhorter dated December 21, 2001).

General's opinion to Tolar dated December 7, 2001)

Q Does an individual who rents mobile homes on his property and/or at other locations need to secure a privilege license?

A Yes. (opinion to Martin dated December 7, 2001)

Q May annual rentals received from leasing of 16th Section Public School Trust Lands, where the rights conveyed are a utility lease, be placed in the property fund for immediate expenditure upon order of the school board or must all funds received from instruments conveying rights-of-way and easements be placed in the principal fund?

A One-time payments for a permanent easement would be paid into the principal fund but annual payments would not be required to be kept in such fund.

(opinion to McWhorter dated December 21, 2001).

County library is a real treasure

To the Editor:
I've said it before, but I can't say it too often - what a treasure we have in our local library!

Thanks again, Bay St. Louis-Hancock County Library.

Dorothea Martin
Bay St. Louis

Planning action could stimulate growth

BY ED LEPOMA
Staff Writer

The Hancock County Planning and Zoning Commission Thursday took action which could spark more commercial development along two busy corridors.

The commission voted unanimously to extend the commercial zoning of half of a 364-plus acre tract of land bounded by Interstate-10 on the north, state Hwy. 603 on the east and Bayou LaCroix on the south.

Commissioners also voted to extend the neighborhood commercial zoning on both sides of a portion of the Kiln-Waveland Cutoff Road, but the proposal will require a future public hearing.

At its March 21 meeting, Rusty Miller, representing a group of Alabama investors chartered as Hancock Development, LLC, asked commissioners to consider zoning the entire 364-acre tract of land "C-2-Highway Commercial" to accommodate future development planned there.

The portion of the tract fronting on 603 already had the designation, but the larger remaining portion to the rear is zoned "A-1-Agricultural."

Miller said developers want to build retail shops and restaurants, and some living units may be located

above the shops. He said the tract also included enough land to accommodate a new county courthouse in the event supervisors saw a need to build one at the busy crossroads in the future. To the rear of the property, Miller envisions townhouse apartments, condos, or even single-family residences.

Commissioners called in zoning consultant Bill Hessell for recommendations since it would be the largest rezoning of any tract of land since the county's Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance went into effect five years ago.

Hessell was at the meeting Thursday, and told Commissioners it would not be a good idea to classify the property as a "Special Use District" or a "Planned Unit Development" as suggested by the Commission's attorney, John Scafide.

In the event commissioners decided to rezone the entire parcel, Hessell said developers should have a time-table for the entire development.

After some discussion, commissioners voted to extend the Highway Commercial zoning fronting 603 back to about 300 feet inside the parcel. They voted to zone "C-1-Neighborhood Commercial" the remaining portion to the rear of the large parcel.

Although the action will not require another public hearing, developers will still have to come back to the commission for site plan approval of their drainage plans, sewerage and water services, and road plans to service the large development. Under a new policy adopted by the Hancock County Board of Supervisors, the drainage and other infrastructure improvements would also have to be approved by the county engineer.

Commissioners also called in Hessell to look at emerging businesses on the Kiln-Waveland Cutoff Road, the main artery for many vehicles using U.S. Hwy. 90 and state 603.

At their meeting of March 21, commissioners rezoned several pieces of property facing the Kiln-Waveland Cutoff Road, at the request of two property owners.

The majority of the area running through Shoreline Park is zoned "R-2-Medium Density Residential," but there are a number of businesses along the roadways existing side-by-side with homes or trailers.

At the previous meeting, attorney Michael Haas gained approval of the "C-1-Neighborhood Commercial" designation for two lots he owns on the west side of the roadway not far from the way to Hwy. 603.

Whitney Marina.

And, developer Rodney Coor also gained the commercial designation for seven lots he owns. He was allowed to subdivide seven 50-foot-front lots to four with 87.5 frontage. The lots are located on the east side of the Kiln-Waveland Cutoff Road, near a NAPA car parts dealership.

Hessell said, "After visiting the area, I would recommend the county consider extending the existing "C-1-Neighborhood Commercial" District along both sides of Kiln-Waveland Road to just north of Catalina Street." The commercial designation would go back about 150 feet from the front of each person's property.

He said this would take in all four corners at Catalina Street and Kiln-Waveland Road.

"The rezoning would fill in the gaps to the south and promote a more orderly growth to the area," Hessell said.

He said in the event, the change stimulates continued commercial growth along the Kiln-Waveland Road, the county may want to look at extending the C-1 designation all the way to Hwy. 603.

A date will be announced for the public hearing to extend the commercial zoning on the Kiln-Waveland Cutoff Road.

Hancock Library receives Public Library Capital Improvement grant for Waveland

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO

The Hancock County Library System in Bay St. Louis has received notification that it is the recipient of a \$300,000 grant to renovate and expand the Waveland Library.

This grant is part of an approximately \$3 million in bond funds authorized by the Mississippi Legislature

in 2000, to be administered by the Mississippi Library Commission.

The grant is being matched with \$171,600 from the City of Waveland and \$28,400 from the library system.

Of the 70 grant applications submitted, 27 were funded. The Hancock County Library System's

application was only one of six granted the maximum allowed of \$300,000.

The funds will be used to expand and renovate the building to 5,000 square feet. New equipment and furnishings will support the expanded services of the library.

The renovation will include bringing the building into ADA compliance

and implementing energy conservation measures.

"We're excited that we have received this grant," said Prima Plauché, library system director. "The Waveland Library renovation and expansion will be one of the anchors of the Coleman Avenue revitalization efforts. And the library will become a focal point for the community."

Minor

Continued from Page 4A

olution board" named by local election commissioners would make the determination of the voter's "intent."

Another would require counties to report their "residual" votes (those uncounted) after elections so the Secretary of State could zero in on which voting machines and ballot designs are the main culprits causing vote-count snafus.

This writer for years has written critically about "phantom" voters still on registration rolls, and the state's failure to set up a central voter register based in the Secretary of State's

office as a key part of the public's right to know how many voters we really have in Mississippi.

What's amazing is how we've not had wholesale vote fraud here, considering the thousands of ghosts on the voting lists. There have been some cases of peddling absentee ballot affidavits in a few counties, but known cases of dead people trying to vote have just not arisen.

Sometimes maybe you have to have a catharsis such as the 2000 presidential election before you can get things done. But it's a sad commentary that we have yet to get a big boot in the rear before we act.

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*Nokia 5165, free after \$30.00 rebate. Certain restrictions and/or fees may apply. Offer available for limited time only.

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Imager -- Pass police dept.

donated to the city by the United States Army Electronic Proving Ground (EPG), which perfected the weapon at the Army's White Sands Missile Range in Fort Huachuca, Arizona. The EPG administers the Technology Transfer Program on behalf of the Office of the National Drug Control Policy, Counterdrug Technology Assessment Center.

The only stipulation attached to the donation was the officer assigned to operate the thermal imager must attend a condensed version of the Basic Thermographer Course, which provides both legal and technical aspects of thermal imaging.

Stewart didn't mind that

either, except he had never flown on an airplane before last week. "That was a bit scary," he said.

The Army paid for the round-trip flight, four-days' hotel accommodations and some meals for him and about 473 other law enforcement officials from across the county to fly into Orlando, Fla., and become certified on the thermal imager.

Stewart sees many uses of the department's new weapon.

"We might suspect marijuana is being grown inside a house," he said. "The imager will pick up the heat from the plants or if they're growing in the woods."

Likewise, the thermal imager can be used for

searching vehicles suspected of carrying illegal drugs.

"It can sense the hot spots inside the vehicle," said Stewart.

The thermal imager can also be used to search for suspected felons who might have fled into woods or to search an area for a lost child or disoriented and missing older person.

Stewart said the thermal imager does not work below water, but above the water line, heat will come up from bodies partially visible. The imager used aboard an airplane can spot boaters stranded in disabled vessels offshore or floating in life rafts or on life preservers in the water.

"We can also use it looking for bodies that we suspect might have been buried in shallow graves," said Stewart.

And, we can find people who might be hiding in crates, closets, behind doors or anywhere we suspect they might be."

Stewart, a Pass native and 17-year veteran with the police department, said he hopes to continue advanced training on the thermal imager. After basic certification, there is an opportunity for advanced training, master training, then training to be certified as an instructor.

He said Patrolman Roland Flowers, who recently transferred to the Department, is also certified to operate the thermal imager.

Robber

Continued from Page 1A

pounds, tan bandanna over his face and possibly wearing tan pants.

The reports says, "The armed robbery suspect was armed with a handgun, demanded all the money from the cash register, and threatened to use the handgun if his demands were not followed. The suspect then placed the clerk in the bathroom and instructed her not to come out for 10 minutes."

"The clerk stayed in the bathroom for approximately 6-7 minutes before coming out to call police. The suspect left the store, unknown in what direction or means of travel," Varnell reported.

An undetermined amount of cash was taken by the suspect. Anyone with any information is asked to contact the Waveland P.D. at 467-3669.

Waveland Criminal Investigator Howard Parker is in charge of the investigation.

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Exchange Student of the Month



The Exchange Club of Hancock County has named Alison Schulz as the Youth of the Month for March. Schulz is the daughter of Kelvin and Emily Schulz of Bay St. Louis. Pictured are Marlon Emerson, Charter Mortgage, (left); Alison Schulz, Youth of the Month for March; Janell Nolan, youth chairperson and senior marketing representative of Coast Electric Power Association; and David Holliman, Charter Mortgage and Exchange Club member.

Trooper

Continued from Page 1A

Under state statutes, a defendant must be accused of attempting to steal money or valuables of more than \$250 before a charge of grand larceny can be brought before a grand jury.

In closing statements, Don Rafferty, the defense attorney for Myles, argued his client was trying to convert the money orders to cash, intending to pay the money back to the three people who paid the fines.

Prosecuting Assistant District Attorney Chris Schmidt agreed with defense claims that Myles had a good record of service

to the state of Mississippi. "But, you don't get judged by a lifetime, you get judged based on one act," said Schmidt.

He reminded jurors that two Hancock County bank tellers testified Myles showed up at a drive-in window in his trooper uniform and in his trooper vehicle asking how to convert the money orders into cash. The tellers refused to accept the money orders.

Circuit Court Judge Steve Simpson presided over the trial, which went to the jury of seven men and five women at about 2 p.m.

Wednesday. Jurors deliberated about two hours before filing back into the courtroom and announcing the guilty verdict.

The judge set sentencing for May 6 in Harrison County.

Myles could face up to five years in prison on the charge and fines ranging up to \$1,000. He had been free on bond, and he was discharged from the Highway Patrol after an administrative hearing which followed his arrest and indictment.

Bay High's 'Tree of Knowledge'

The Bay High Library has started a new tradition entitled The Bay High School Teacher Recognition Program.

Students, former students and members of the community can donate a book to the library in honor of a teacher, living or deceased, who has made an impact on their life.

A name plate with the name of the teacher being honored and the benefactor will be put on the inside of

the book. Bay High's art students have painted a "Tree of Knowledge" mural on one of the library's walls.

An apple with the name of the teacher and the subject taught will be painted on the tree for each teacher honored. Anyone interested in donating a book to honor a teacher should contact Vickie Walsh, Bay High media specialist, at 228-467-7267 for more detailed information.

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Casino World selects designer behind Trump's Taj Mahal

BY ED LEPOMA
Staff Writer

Europa Cruises Corp. announced late Wednesday it has selected the Las Vegas firm of Leo A. Daly as the lead architectural/engineering firm to design the proposed Casino World gambling resort in Hancock County.

Frances Xavier Dumont, one of the firm's leading designers, will be in charge of the project. Dumont is a vice-president and the managing principal of the Daly office in Las Vegas and is responsible for the design of the Trump Taj Mahal Casino Resort in Atlantic City, N.J. recognized as one of the most palatial casinos in the country.

Europa's President and CEO Deborah A. Vitale said, "The company intends to negotiate a contract with the firm to perform architecture, engineering, interior or design and planning

services for a destination casino resort and hotel. Europa's 404-acre site is off the southbound exit of Interstate 10 at Diamondhead. Vitale said the company intends to build a themed-destination resort and hotel and other amenities.

In a prepared press release, Dumont said, "The Casino World site has the potential to be the premier gaming site on the Gulf Coast. It's unprecedented acreage, nestled between the beautiful waters of the Bay of St. Louis and enormous frontage on I-10, presents unparalleled potential for both outdoor and indoor recreation. This development will give the Gulf Coast of Mississippi the world-class destination gaming resort its growing market demands."

Europa's building plans were bolstered two weeks ago when the Mississippi

Supreme Court refused to reconsider a court decision which ruled the state Department of Marine Resources acted within its authority when it issued a permit for the Casino World project. Several citizen and environmental groups are opposed to the project and filed the appeal.

Vitale hailed that decision as a victory in Europa's years long quest to build Casino World. She said the firm has complied with a federal court ruling and supplied names to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers of firms qualified to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement to gauge the environmental and cumulative effects of the project.

Vitale said the Las Vegas firm of Leo A. Daly is the third largest architecture and engineering firm in the United States with approximately 900 employees and 15 offices worldwide.

Chief warns motorists to slow down

BY ELLIS C. CUEVAS
Publisher Emeritus

Bay St. Louis Police Chief Frank McNeil warns motorists using the streets of Bay St. Louis to observe all speed limits.

"We have been receiving complaints from residents and business owners about speeding in their areas, and the police department will be checking speeds very close," Chief McNeil said Wednesday.

McNeil also said motorists need to observe the "No U-turn" from the east lane of Highway 90 at the intersection of Drinkwater.

"Highway 90 and Drinkwater is a very busy

intersection, and the Department of Transportation has installed a No U-turn from the east lane. Patrolmen will be making sure the sign is observed," McNeil added.

McNeil continued, "In regards to the one-way status of Court Street, thus far officers have been issuing mostly warnings. Now patrolmen will be issuing citations to motorists who fail to observe Court Street's one-way status."

McNeil mentioned several of the many streets his department will be cracking down on speeding. They include all school zones, Washington, Dunbar, Esplanade, Beyer Drive,

Bouslog, Seube, Beach business district, Beach Boulevard and Blue Meadow Road.

"We are going to monitor speeding really on all streets of the city," McNeil added.

Domestic squabble leads to meth arrest

BY ELLIS C. CUEVAS
Publisher Emeritus

Hancock County Deputies Ray Billeaud, Kent Malley and Matt Barnett were dispatched last week to 23251 Standard/Dedeaux Road on a verbal domestic violence call, according to Sheriff Steve Garber.

"When deputies arrived at the residence, they became suspicious of possible drug activities. They received written permission to search the premises and found a digital scale, crystal meth and numerous drug paraphernalia, and two small bags of crystal meth in the purse of Dedra Tomasich, 23," Garber said.

added.

The Sheriff's Drug Task Force was summoned and Director Matt Karl went to the scene. Karl started finding evidence of the possible remains of a meth lab," Garber said. Karl then summoned Agent Chris Russell, and they also found more evidence of the possible remains of a meth lab.

Tomasich was arrested and charged with possession of a controlled substance and held in the Hancock County Criminal Justice Facility, from which she bonded out, Karl said.

Her bond was set at \$5,000, and she is awaiting a Justice Court appearance, Karl said.

Tryouts for Little League Softball scheduled Sat.

Hancock County Little League Girls Fastpitch Softball will hold tryouts on Saturday April 13 at the following times:

5-8-year-olds at 10 a.m., 9-12-year-olds at 12:30 p.m., 13-16-year-olds and 17-18-year-olds at 3 p.m.

Any girl age 5 through 18

who resides in Hancock County is eligible to play and may call Herb at 467-1291 or Frank at 467-4220 for details or register at the tryouts.

If you have already registered and cannot attend tryouts, call Herb or Frank to hold a spot in the draft.

Hancock Fish Pond mgmt. clinic is today

The Hancock County Soil & Water Conservation District's annual Fish Pond Management Clinic is today at Lee Lake off Chester Lee Road-Road 268 Leetown.

Take Hwy. 43 toward Picayune, turn on Leetown Road, turn left onto Chester Lee Road, then onto Road 268. Experts will be on hand to provide information on the many aspects of maintaining a pond. Call 228-255-3225.

The Hancock County Soil & Water Conservation District's annual Fish Pond Management Clinic is today at Lee Lake off Chester Lee Road-Road 268 Leetown.

Take Hwy. 43 toward Picayune, turn on Leetown Road, turn left onto Chester Lee Road, then onto Road 268. Experts will be on hand to provide information on the many aspects of maintaining a pond. Call 228-255-3225.

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Obituaries

VIOLA CARCO

JOYCE DAVIS

MARION DEDEAUX

BERTIE LUTZ

CHAS. MACDONALD

S. NIGLIAZZO

SHERRY REYNOLDS

SIDNEY SHOWS

JOE W. SNOOK

BARBARA SONNIER

PETER SWARTWOOD

LUCY TOWNSEND

VIOLA CARCO

Viola Sprinkle Carco, 80, of Pass Christian, died Monday, April 8, 2002, in Gulfport.

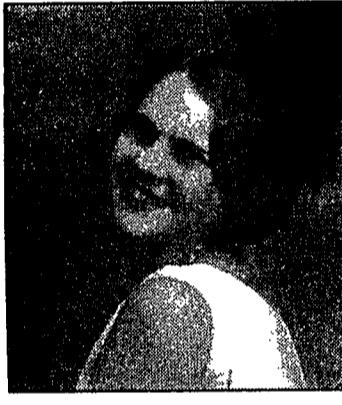
Mrs. Carco was a lifelong resident of Harrison County. She was a member of Trinity Episcopal Church in Pass Christian and a homemaker.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Joseph Carco.

Survivors include a son, Woodrow Carco of Auburn, Calif.; four daughters, Etta C. Humphreys, Betty Jo Bishop, Frona Bearden, all of Pass Christian, and Vivian Doherty of Jacksonville, Fla.; a sister, Frona Oestriecher of Long Beach; 16 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Services were conducted Wednesday at Trinity Episcopal Church followed by burial in Live Oak Cemetery in Pass Christian directed by Riemann Funeral Home in Gulfport.

The family prefers memorials to the American Kidney Foundation, 6110 Executive Blvd., Suite 1010, Rockville, MD 20852-9813.


JOYCE DAVIS

Joyce E. Davis, 89, of Bay St. Louis, died Saturday, April 6, 2002, in Gulfport.

Mrs. Davis was born Aug. 22, 1912 in Amite County near Liberty, Miss. and was a fifth generation Mississippian. Her great-great-grandfather, Capt. William Causey, came to Mississippi Territory in 1800 after serving in the Revolutionary War. She was graduated from Mississippi Women's College and taught mathematics for 40 years in Mississippi and Florida public schools. She resided in Waynesboro, Miss. for many years and moved to Bay St. Louis 10 years ago. She was a member of Clara Baptist Church in Clara, Miss.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Dewitt W. Davis; parents Henry L. and Susie Causey Smith; five brothers, Walker Smith, Timothy Smith, Noel Smith, Hilton Smith, Robert Smith; and stepsons Joe Davis, Roy Davis and Cecil Davis.

Survivors include a step-daughter, Carmen Green of McLain, Miss. and 11 step-grandchildren.

Visitation was Monday evening at Riemann Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis. Services were conducted Tuesday in the funeral home chapel followed by graveside services in Smith Cemetery near Liberty.

The family prefers memorials to Bethel Baptist Church Building Fund, Liberty, MS 39645.

MARION DEDEAUX

Marion Dedeaux, age

unavailable, died Sunday, April 7, 2002, in Gulfport.

Services are pending at J. T. Hall Funeral Home in Gulfport.

BERTIE LUTZ

Bertie Jordan Linton Lutz, 82, of Waveland, died Saturday, April 6, 2002, in Pass Christian.

Mrs. Lutz was a native of Moss Point and a longtime resident of Galveston, Texas before moving to Waveland four years ago. She was of the Pentecostal faith.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John Lon Linton; her parents, John Barnes and Effie Mae Woods Jordan; a brother, Donald E. Jordan; and a sister, Lula Mae Hanway.

Survivors include sons Robert Linton of Santa Fe, Texas; Frank Eugene Linton of Marrero and Henry Vincent Linton of Waveland; a daughter, Gloria Linton Chetta of Waveland; a brother, Harold Jordan of New Orleans; two sisters, Wanda Beard of New Mexico and Mamie Barbere of Dallas, Texas; four grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

Visitation was Wednesday at Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis followed by a prayer service in the funeral home chapel and interment in McPhelia Cemetery in Pascagoula.

CHAS. MACDONALD

Col. Charles MacDonald,

87, of Defuniak Springs,

Fla., died March 4, 2002, in

Defuniak Springs.

He was the third ranking fighter ace in the Pacific during World War II. Charles Henry "Mac" MacDonald was born in Dubois, Pa. Nov. 23 1914. He entered the Army Air Corps pilot training program following graduation from Louisiana State University in 1938. He received his wings and commission as a second lieutenant at Kelly Field, Texas May 25, 1939.

Assigned initially to the 55th Pursuit Group, he was transferred to the 18th Pursuit Group at Wheeler Field, Hawaii and was there during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

MacDonald returned to the states and served briefly in the 326th Fighter Group before transferring to the 348th Fighter Group to command the 340th Pursuit Squadron at Westover Field, Maine. On Oct. 1, 1943, MacDonald, by then a major, joined the 475th Fighter Group at Dobodura, New Guinea as group executive officer. He became an ace Nov. 9 when he downed to planes near Alexishafen Airdrome. Promoted to lieutenant colonel the next day, he assumed command of the group.

Mac Donald's decorations include Distinguished Service Cross with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Silver Star with one OLC, Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross with 5 OLCs, Air Medal with 10 OLCs and the Air Force

Commendation Medal.

Survivors include sons Braid, Bruce and Ralph MacDonald; daughter Alexandra MacDonald; several nieces and nephews, including Barbara Bassett of Bay St. Louis; two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be conducted at a future date. Details will be posted on the web site of the 475th Fighter Group: www.475thfgh.org.

Riemann Funeral Home is in charge of local arrangements.

S. NIGLIAZZO

Salvador Nigliazzo, 87, of Bay St. Louis, died Monday, April 8, 2002, in Bay St. Louis.

Mr. Nigliazzo was a native of Donaldsonville, La. and a longtime resident of Bay St. Louis. He was a member of Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church and was a veteran of the United States Air Force serving in World War II. He was a member of the Bay-Waveland Yacht Club and the Hancock County Senior Citizens.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Frank and Anna Pec Nigliazzo.

Survivors include his wife, Gladys Boudreaux Nigliazzo of Bay St. Louis.

Visitation was

Wednesday at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Bay St. Louis followed by celebration of a Mass of Christian Burial and interment in Gulf Coast Memorial Cemetery & Mausoleum in Bay St. Louis.

Edmond Fahey Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

SHERRY REYNOLDS

Sherrill Grace Elliott Kelley Reynolds, 42, of Orlando, Fla., died Sunday, April 7, 2002, in Las Vegas, Nev.

Mrs. Reynolds was a native of Bay St. Louis and a resident of Orlando. She was the former owner of the Little Mushroom, was secretary of First Baptist Church and was employed by Nth Degree, a national trade show corporation.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Dec and Margie Elliott, and her grandfather, Ed P. Orte.

Survivors include son Brenton Ray Kelley and daughter Elaine Estelle Reynolds, both of Orlando; stepdaughters Kristin and Dawn Reynolds, both of Tennessee; parents Marion and Russell J. Elliott of Bay St. Louis; brother Ree Elliott and wife Laura, sister Patsy Welch, and grandmother Grace Orte, all of Bay St. Louis; a grandson and a stepgrandchild.

Visitation will be today, April 11, 7-9 p.m. with a prayer service at 7:30 p.m. at Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis.

A prayer service will also be conducted Friday, April 12 at 11 a.m. in the funeral

home chapel followed by interment in Garden of Memory Cemetery in Bay St. Louis.

Arrangements are incomplete at Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis.

SIDNEY SHOWS

Sidney Shows, 39, of Bay St. Louis, died Saturday, April 6, 2002, in Bay St. Louis.

Mrs. Sonnier was born August 27, 1939. She was a native of Gretna and a resident of Hancock County for 20 years.

She was the daughter of the late Masin and Annette Hill Sr.

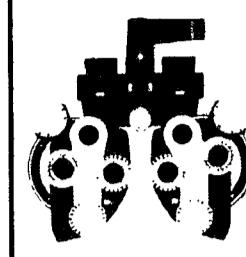
Survivors include her husband, Paul "Buddy" Sonnier of Pearlington; and a brother, Masin J. Hill Jr. of Bay St. Louis; sons Paul "Bud" Sonnier Jr. of Pearlington, and Joseph Sonnier of Arabi; a daughter, Dawn E. Sonnier of

OBITS--PAGE 10A

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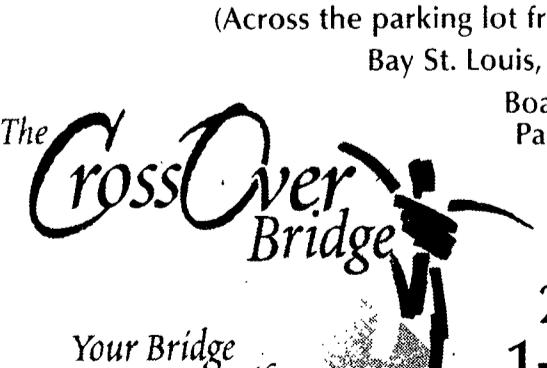
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Rotary Teacher of the Month

Millie Rutledge, center, was recently presented with the Rotary club's Teacher of the Month Award. Also pictured are Our Lady Academy principal Sister Donella Hartmann and Rotary Club Education Program Chairman Bob Hubbard.

Photo courtesy of Bob Hubbard

Prisoner attempts going through walls in escape

BY ELLIS C. CUEVAS
Publisher Emeritus

A Hancock Criminal Justice Facility inmate tried to escape from the jail Tuesday morning, according to Sheriff Steve Garber.

Investigator Kenny Hurt said, "Joseph Noble, Jr., 18, of BaySide Park, was being held in jail on felony charges of two counts of commercial burglary and one count of petite larceny in Waveland on a Nov. 11, 2001, was nabbed by a cor-

rections officer between the walls of the jail."

"Noble removed one large cinder block and got into the area where the jail's plumbing is located, broke some pipes and proceeded to dislodge an outside cinder block," Hurt said, adding, "There was water everywhere in the cell."

During questioning, Hurt reported Noble told him, "He was trying to save the county money by fixing the plumbing."

Garber reported Noble was also arrested by the Sheriff's Department on Jan. 15, 2001, on a charge of burglary and was awaiting trial, when on Sept. 18, 2001, he walked away from the jail and was captured later the same day.

"Noble will probably now face additional charges of attempted jail escape," Hurt added.

Damages to the jail cell area was estimated by Hurt at \$500 or more.

Obits

Continued from Page 8A

Pearlington; and grandchildren Nicole A. Morgero, Shaw A. Couvillion, Joseph Dale Sonnier, Masin Sonnier, Raquel Sonnier and Seth Sonnier; and daughters-in-law, Patty Sonnier and April Sonnier.

No services will be conducted. Mrs. Sonnier donated her body to the University Medical Center in Jackson.

PETER SWARTWOOD
Peter Hagan Swartwood, 57, of Kiln, died Saturday, April 6, 2002, in Kiln.

Mr. Swartwood was born Jan. 12, 1945 in Boston, Mass., but spent his youth in Elmina, N.Y. He attended Cascadella Academy in Ithaca, N.Y., University of Oklahoma, Southeast Louisiana College and was graduated from Mark Hopkins in Brattleboro, Vt.

He was an avid horseman and became a licensed pilot. He taught in a school for retarded children and taught large tractor-trailer truck driving. He was a real estate investor.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Beulah "Boots" Washburn Swartwood, and a brother, Jonathan.

Survivors include his father, retired NYS Supreme Court Justice Charles B. Swartwood; stepmother Nancy Knerr Swartwood; sisters Caroline

maker.

Survivors include sons Preston Townsend and Audrey Townsend, both of Poplarville; daughters Irene Brown of Kiln and Jane Wallace of Poplarville; and two grandchildren.

Visitation was Monday evening at First Baptist Church in Poplarville.

Services were conducted Tuesday at the church directed by White Funeral Home in Poplarville.

Bay Scout Troop 208 spaghetti dinner Friday

Boy Scout Troop 208 is having a spaghetti dinner Friday at the American Legion Post 139 Hall in Bay St. Louis from 5 to 8 p.m. Tickets at the door are \$5, dine in or take out. Includes two large meatballs with sauce, spaghetti, coleslaw, garlic bread, dessert, and drink. Contact Larry Clayton at 467-7868 or Kelvin Schulz at 467-6501.

ARAVA® ALERT!

Arava (also known as leflunomide & Avara) is an anti-inflammatory drug prescribed for rheumatoid arthritis. According to FDA records, there are 130 reports of severe liver reactions associated with Arava, including 56 hospitalizations and 12 deaths. Two of the deaths were patients in their 20s. Arava is also linked to 12 cases of the life threatening autoimmune disease called Stevens-Johnson Syndrome. Please read our Arava Alert and find out about your legal rights.

Vicki L. Schmidt, Attorney
The Schmidt & McGartland Firm, PLLC
310 East River Place, Suite 601
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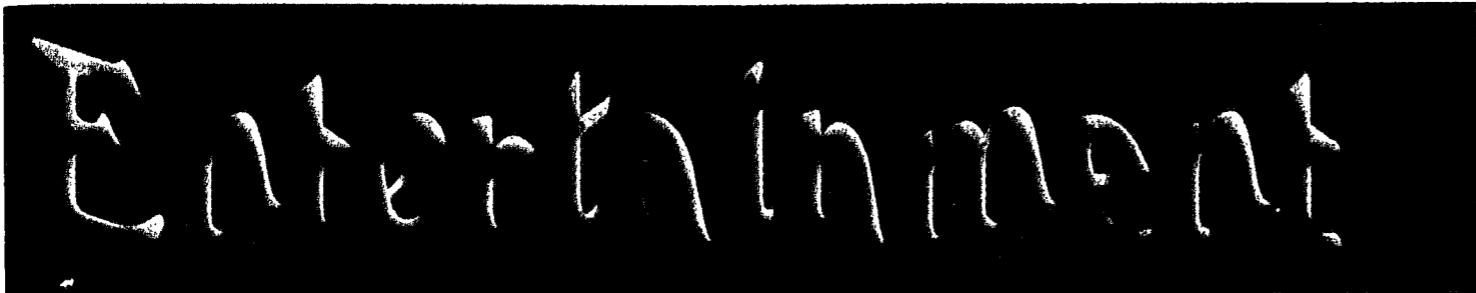
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Stennis celebrates Apollo 13

Make plans now to meet astronaut Fred Haise for 32nd anniversary

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO

Travel back to the 60's Saturday, April 13 with Apollo 13 astronaut and Biloxi native Fred Haise, Jr. as StenniSphere celebrates the 32nd anniversary of Apollo 13.

At 10 a.m., Haise will unveil the recently refurbished spacesuit he wore during the Apollo 13 mission and give presentations at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., each followed by an autograph session.

Children can try on a real spacesuit and glove and watch model rockets being launched, while adults reminisce about the 1960s while reviewing the new

"Back to the Future" exhibit. On display are belongings of rocket scientist Dr. Wernher von Braun on loan from the U.S. Space and Rocket Center, as well as artifacts



Photo courtesy of NASA
Astronaut and Biloxi-native Fred Haise will be on hand Saturday to help StenniSphere celebrate the 32nd anniversary of the Apollo 13 mission.

from James H. Deese, Lawrence Deese, who father of local surgeon Dr.

at Kennedy Space Center. The Rocketeria, a 1960's space-themed restaurant that plays golden oldies rock and roll, will serve local cuisine inside and hot dogs and hamburgers outdoors.

Apollo 13 Astronaut and native Biloxian Fred Haise Jr. made history on April 17, 1970, when he and fellow astronauts, Commander James Lovell Jr. and John Swigert Jr., returned safely to Earth with help from NASA scientists and engineers on the ground. Haise will be at StenniSphere, Stennis Space Center's award-winning visitor center, on April 13 to help commemorate the 32nd anniversary of Apollo 13, to share his memories of the Apollo 13 mission and to sign autographs.

Haise will also dedicate his Apollo 13 spacesuit to its permanent exhibit in StenniSphere. The suit recently underwent refurbishment at the Smithsonian Institute's Air and Space Museum as part of a restoration and preservation program for all Apollo-era spacesuits.

Harry Connick entertains at D'head Country Club

BY PAT GUDRITZ AND SUE STEWART

Harry Connick Sr. and his Great Band will entertain Sunday, April 14 at 7 p.m. at the Diamondhead Country Club.

Connick has served as District Attorney in New Orleans since 1973.

As such he has received national recognition for his establishment of a career criminal bureau and a victim/witness assistance program.

His child support enforcement division collects millions of dollars from runaway parents for care of their children.

Today he expresses deep concern not only in the area of rehabilitation of offenders, but also in the area of assistance to the often forgotten victims of crime.

The multiple-talented Connick has been singing since he was in high school.

He and his late wife, Anita, owned two music stores while pursuing their law degrees.

Mrs. Connick was an



Harry Connick, Sr.

accomplished flute player who became one of the finest female judges in the city of New Orleans.

Connick continued to follow his love for music and now sings with his own band.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$3.50 for full-time students and may be purchased at the door on the evening of the performance or ahead of time at Diamondhead Discount Drugs.

D.C. Renaissance Fair

The Lynn Meadows Discovery Center celebrates its fourth birthday on Saturday, April 27, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., with a Renaissance Fair for families.

"Our birthday is a celebration of who we are," says Betsy Grant, director of the Discovery Center, "and the folks at Lynn Meadows Discovery Center are delighted to offer a fresh new face with our Renaissance Fair."

Visitors will create damsel hats, knight helmets, ribbon wreaths, scepters and coat of arms while learning techniques of medieval metal smithing, Sistine Chapel art and stained glass painting. Jesters, jugglers and madrigal musicians will entertain visitors. Children will participate in knighthood ceremonies at the Royal Hall and design 3-D maps of medieval fiefdoms. Tossing horse shoes, launching catapults, dancing around the May Pole and making sand castles will complete the theme activities.

The event fee for this fun-filled day is \$2.50 with membership or admission.

Then at 1 p.m. visitors can enjoy a performance of "The Hobbit," Tolkein's classic tale. "The Hobbit" is presented by WINGS Performing Arts Program and is staged in the tree houses at the Discovery Center. The tickets are

\$2.50. Eat like a king from a grilled menu for sale - chicken on a lance, steak on a stake, turkey legs and more. Admission to the Discovery Center is \$6. For more information call 897-6039.

THE PURPLE SNAPPER, 209 1/2 Main St. 467-7703 will feature metal artist Gail Hendrickson. Gail's creations are made from steel, cut with an acetylene torch, painted with enamels. She will demonstrate her technique in front of the gallery from 4 to 7 pm.

DAB-OV-AL JEWELS AND UPSTAIRS GALLERY, 138 Main St. 466-4770 offers signed art glass from Italy, France and the US. The gallery hosts 3 award winning artists - Lou Jordon, Phil Hubbell and Victoria Lenee. Artist Mai Sanders will be doing pastels from 5 to 8 pm.

Peoples Bank will sponsor the band, "BO AND DEE" on Beach Blvd. For additional information please call chairman, Rich Zitzmann 228-467-6870 or the galleries.

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Arts and Creative Crafts Show at Diamondhead

The 19th annual Arts and Creative Crafts Show at Diamondhead will be Saturday, Sept. 28 from 9:30 a.m. till 5 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 29 from 11 a.m. till 4 p.m. on the Country Club Circle and grounds.

More than 100 booths will be set up with hand-made crafts and multimedia art works for sale.

Diamondhead Country Club will provide sandwiches and drinks at an outside concession. Diamondhead is located at Exit 16, off I-10.

All proceeds from booth space fees are donated equally to Diamondhead Youth Organization, and

the Diamondhead Community Association Continuing Education, non-profit organizations.

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HIGH CRIMES Fri, Mon-Thurs 7, 9:30 • Sat & Sun 2:30, 4:45, 7, 9:30

THE PANIC ROOM Fri, Mon-Thurs 9 • Sat & Sun 9
BLADE BLOODLUST Fri, Mon-Thurs 7 • Sat & Sun 2:30, 4:45, 7
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**MS DECA
state pres.
passes from
Ross to Graves**

Bay High Marketing DECA Advisor Lady Stone Bruce announces the top spot in Mississippi DECA will be filled for the second year by a Bay High School Marketing DECA member.

Past president Felicity Ross had the honor of installing fellow DECA member Joseph Graves as president of Mississippi DECA at the DECA Career Development Conference in Biloxi March 9.

Graves, son of Kurt and Belinda Graves of Waveland, was elected to serve as president of Mississippi DECA for the 2002-2003 school year at the State Career Development Conference in Biloxi.

As president, Graves will represent DECA members throughout the state and nation. He will serve as the liaison with the Southern Region vice-president, the international president and the international office of DECA.

He will travel to various meeting of students, educators and business leaders to



Felicity Ross, left, and Joseph Graves

promote DECA and will also have the challenge of providing guidance, leadership, and inspiration for the state association.

Ross, daughter of Lisa and Keith Ross of Bay St. Louis, served as Mississippi DECA president during the 2001-2002 school year.

As a member of the State Action Team, Ross represented Bay High School in Anaheim, Calif., at the International DECA Career Development Conference; in Jackson, Miss., for the DECA Fall Leadership Conference; and in Biloxi for the State DECA Career Development Conference.

She was also instrumental in ensuring the prosperity and success of DECA in the State of Mississippi.

PRCC Extravaganza is April 14

Some 16 restaurants from South Mississippi provide a grand smorgasbord for Pearl River Community College's 2002 15th annual River Extravaganza Sunday, April 14.

The restaurants will begin serving their specialties when the doors of the M.R. White Coliseum open at 5 p.m.

Each restaurant will have its own booth on the gym floor of the 3,000-seat coliseum.

An auction is scheduled for 7 p.m. and the concert performance at 8:15.

The annual event, sponsored by the PRCC Development Foundation, will help the college raise money for student scholarships and numerous teacher enhancement grants.

Those attending can browse and fill their plates as Dealer's Choice, a local band, performs on stage.

After dinner, Dub "Paw Paw" Herring of Picayune, known around the South for his successful automotive and recreational vehicle businesses, will serve as auctioneer with

WLOX-TV news anchor Jeff Lawson and Kelly Sanner of Hattiesburg serving as emcees. "We think it

After the auction, there is a concert featuring singer, songwriter and performer Ronnie McDowell, who last performed for the event in 1999.

"Ronnie is returning by popular demand," said Donna Wilson Lee, director of the sponsoring PRCC Development Foundation. "He loves The River, and we love him. He has become part of our family."

For years McDowell has had top country music hits like "Older Women", "Wanderin' Eyes", "The King is Gone" and "You're Gonna Ruin My Bad Reputation". And his 1990 version of the Righteous Brothers' hit "Unchained Melody" struck a cord with both country-western lovers and other music fans.

McDowell is also recognized as the creator of country music's first animated video, which he put together on one of his singles titled "American Music", featuring cartoon characters of his band and himself.

This concert will be a little different, featuring show tunes and big band music,

said Donna Wilson Lee, executive director of the PRCC Development Foundation. "We think it

will be an entertaining experience."

Extravaganza tickets are \$35 per person. Area restaurants have agreed to donate their food and their staff's day off to feed some 1,000 paying guests. More than 300 businesses and individuals will donate items for the auction segment of the event.

"The River Extravaganza is the ultimate example of what can be accomplished when volunteers work toward a common goal," said Lee. "Every year is such a rewarding experience."

Restaurants at this year's Extravaganza will be Bradford's Seafood, Pass Christian; Brandon House, Columbia; Chappy's, Long Beach; Don's Seafood Restaurant, Picayune; Grace & Illa's Restaurant, Bogalusa, La.;

Deb's 4 Star Pizza & Pasta, Poplarville; Sodexho Marriott, Poplarville; Southern Delights, Bay St. Louis; Western Sizzlin, Bogalusa, La.; Farmers Market, Hattiesburg; Ole Hickory BBQ, Angie, La.;

Daddy O's Cafe, Waveland; The Shrimp Shack, Picayune; Jody's Bakery & Caterie,

Hattiesburg; River Birch Restaurant, Poplarville; Lau Tori's Fine Foods, Sumrall.

The first 14 Extravaganzas have raised a total of \$650,520 from the private sector, including last year's total of \$60,000.

To order tickets or for more information, call (601) 403-1183.

PRCC Extravaganza:
5 p.m. - Dinner starts
7 p.m. - Auction begins.
Auctioneer is Dub "Paw Paw" Herring
8:15 p.m. - Concert, Mary Ann Mobley and Gary Collins

The water color color of Phil Hubbell will be among the dozen of exhibits on display Saturday in Old Town Bay St. Louis for the first Second Saturday c 2002

**Bas
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Two of basketry the focus show at Gallery in

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It's Time To Dine Out! Spotlight on Dining 2002

Tgre's Restaurant & Lounge

Chefs Thomas Genin & Victor Pickich are the owners of Tgre's Restaurant and Lounge in Pass Christian. Tgre's Restaurant opened four weeks ago and the response has been overwhelming.

Thomas is a graduate of Johnson and Wales Culinary School.

Victor is a graduate of USM Culinary Academy. Thomas & Victor are protégés of Emeril Lagasse in New Orleans.

Because the restaurant is small and intimate, more attention can be given to every detail, assuring you a finer dining experience.

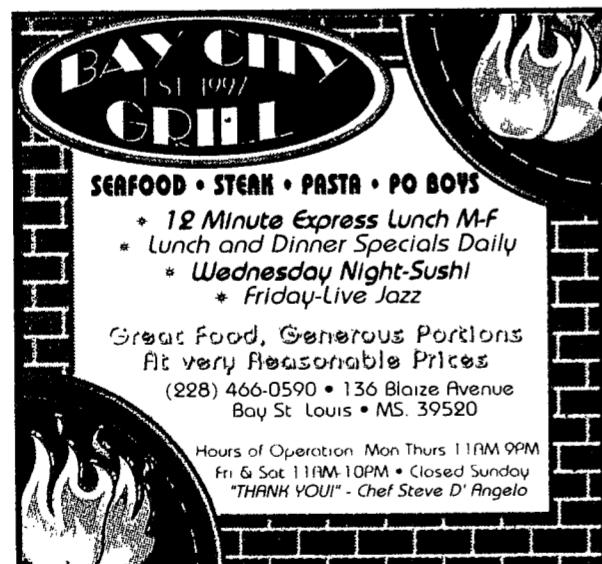
Each scrumptious dish is prepared to order. All recipes are made from scratch using only the finest, freshest ingredients, which have been hand-selected by the chefs themselves. The chefs will suggest a wine with every entree served.

The menu changes weekly and nightly specials are available. For example, rare yellow fin tuna, grilled tuna, pan-seared pork tenderloin, lamb, duck or quail, just to mention a few.

On Friday nights, you can dine at

Tgre's while listening to live instrumental music. Specialty aged liquors can be ordered from the lounge.

Restaurant Owners: If you would like your restaurant reviewed by The Sea Coast Echo, please call Cecilia or Suzette at 467-5474.



Presenting Some of the Finest Restaurants on the Mississippi Gulf Coast

COMMUNITY

2nd Saturday Artwalk is back

The watercolor work of Phil Hubbell will be among the dozens of exhibits on display Saturday in Old Town Bay St. Louis for the first Second Saturday of 2002.



SPECIAL TO THE ECHO

Excitement will fill the air on Saturday as Old Town Bay St. Louis celebrates the first Artwalk of 2002.

The businesses will be open all day, but from 5 to 8 p.m. the streets will be filled with folks enjoying the live music, refreshments in almost every shop and gallery, the outstanding artwork and the new shows opening at the galleries.

Each month the Artwalk features several "Hot Spots" - watch for the "Hot Spot" signs. The three "Hot

Spots" in April are: The Purple Snapper, Dab-oval Jewels and Upstairs Gallery, and CB's.

Did you read about Bay St. Louis in USA Today on December 14, 2001? We were listed as one of the 10 Great Places with Arts-Filled Spaces. We invite you visit and enjoy the works of many local artists.

THE PURPLE SNAPPER, 209 1/2 Main St. (228-467-7703) will feature metal artist Gail Hendrickson. Her creations are

made from steel that she cuts with an acetylene torch then paints with enamel.

Her colorful designs are a combination of Southwestern, influenced by African and Caribbean cultures as a result of her travels around the world.

Her work has been shown extensively throughout the southern United States and is included in collections across the Country. Hendrickson will be demonstrating

SATURDAY-PAGE 2B

Basketry, pottery featured Saturday at Quarter Moon

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO

Two of the oldest crafts, basketry and pottery, are the focus of the newest show at Quarter Moon Gallery in Bay St. Louis.

Awarding-winning artists Zahidi Neale and Linda Sura combine their talents for a show entitled, "An Organic Odyssey" - a melding of clay and fiber."

The exhibit opens with an artist's reception on the season's first 2nd Saturday Artwalk, April 13.

While the two popular craftspeople will be displaying and selling individual works, several of the pieces in the show are unique combinations of both Raku pottery and basketry.

Neale and Sura began collaborating three years ago and the excitement of working together on projects has resulted in this series of new works.

The two Slidell artists



Zahidi Neale and Linda Sura present "An Organic Odyssey," for Second Saturday at Quarter Moon.

met while serving on the board of directors of the Slidell Art League. Currently, Sura serves as president of the league and Neale as treasurer. They became intrigued by the idea of collaborations when doing some research on basketry.

Neale and Sura began collaborating three years ago and the excitement of working together on projects has resulted in this series of new works.

The two Slidell artists

POTTERY-PAGE 2B

Raku & Functional Stoneware at the Loft

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO

The Loft at 144 Main St. in Bay St. Louis will present "Raku & Functional Stoneware," - designs inspired by Mississippi's natural beauty, created by Dale Simmons - from 5 to 8 p.m. this Saturday for the Artwalk celebration.

Simmons began his career more than 20 years ago as an apprentice with professional potter Paul Flickinger. Since that time,

Simmons has been creating stoneware and raku pottery and firing his work in gas kilns that he built himself.

The 30-cubic-foot gas kiln reaches temperatures of 2,300 degrees Fahrenheit. He also uses noncommercial glazes that he formulates and tests himself.

For inspiration, Simmons draws on the natural beauty of Mississippi and his

SIMMONS-PAGE 2B

will be expressing their creativity through various art projects. Included in the family

collaborations is Ashley, Angela's teenage daughter, who just exhibited in a show at the Museum of Art in Jackson - one of a few winners from the art students on the Gulf Coast.

The show will be an eclectic group of sculpture and paintings and it will continue through May 10.

The Lains spend a great deal of their free time expressing their creativity through various art projects. Included in the family

collaborations is Ashley, Angela's teenage daughter, who just exhibited in a show at the Museum of Art in Jackson - one of a few winners from the art students on the Gulf Coast.

One recent family venture has been experimenting with the homemade raku pottery kiln that David built from a trash can.

David, an arborist by trade, is a native of Austin, Texas and has been on the Mississippi Gulf Coast for almost four years.

His interest in sculpture began in college, where he studied native American archaeology. He works with materials readily accessible from his surroundings.

His works featured at Serenity Gallery will include carvings from stone and unique, functional benches made from wood and metal.

His stone carvings represent glimpses of nature; flowers, waves, and animals. The sculptures are in relief and contrast the carved features, which are polished, to the rough natural texture of the surrounding stone.

His benches combine the natural wood to the man-made metal material to complete an aesthetic art



David and Angela Lain will present "an eclectic show of color and stone" Saturday at Serenity Gallery, and will be at an opening reception from 5-8 p.m.

Lains exhibit an 'eclectic' mix of media

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO

David and Angela Lain will be exhibiting at Serenity Gallery Saturday from 5-8 p.m., the first "Second Saturday" of the year.

The show will be an eclectic group of sculpture and paintings and it will continue through May 10.

The Lains spend a great deal of their free time expressing their creativity through various art projects. Included in the family

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His benches combine the natural wood to the man-made metal material to complete an aesthetic art

Bonner's watercolors, oils, focus on birds & boats

Jim Bonner will be the featured artist Saturday, April 13 at Chessy's at 110 S. Beach Boulevard in Bay St. Louis during the Bay's Second Saturday Art Walk. The reception will be from 5 to 8 p.m.

Bonner, born in Mississippi, is known nationally and internationally for the watercolors and oils that he has created of scenes on the

Mississippi Gulf Coast, most notably his paintings of birds and boats.

Bonner is a multifaceted artist who paints and carves duck decoys, and his work has often been compared to John James Audubon.

The reception at Chessy's is free and open to the public. Bonner's works will hang at Chessy's through the month of April.

piece. Recently his stone carvings include the human form which will be included in the gallery's exhibit. Angela has been a graphic artist for almost 20 years. Her career began in Key West, Fla., after finish-

ing school in graphic communications at the University of Southern Mississippi. She continued her illustration work in the Marine Corps, stationed at

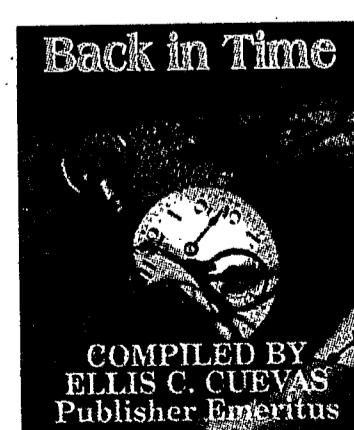
LAINS-PAGE 2B

1962 - Fr. O'Brian replaces Fr. Costello after his 42 years as St. Clare's pastor

TEN YEARS AGO

April 5, 1992 - The first three races in the U.S. Optimist Dinghy Association World and European team selections finals could not have been better according to regatta co-chairman Mark Uram.

The U.S./World team trials were being held at the Bay-Waveland Yacht Club in Bay St. Louis. Some 65 kids from Florida, Maryland, Louisiana and Mississippi were competing. Competitors sail a six-race series in the Mississippi Sound.



COMPILED BY
ELLIS C. CUEVAS
Publisher Emeritus

The Hancock County Board of Supervisors expressed intent Thursday to support a para-county

resolution objecting to recent military base cuts in Mississippi.

Stone Barre Field, former state senator and attorney for Forrest County, requested the supervisors to join with the City of Hattiesburg and the counties of Forrest and Perry in appealing to national representatives for reconsideration on proposed eliminating of 12 state units.

TWENTY YEARS AGO
April 1, 1982 - Loading instruments, (photo), luggage, and uniforms aboard

two buses Wednesday afternoon on Carroll Avenue in Bay St. Louis at Bay Middle School are members of the Bay High School Tiger Pride Band and Band Aides.

Some 66 band members and about 20 chaperones are now enroute to Washington, D.C. where the band will represent Mississippi in the National Cherry Blossom Festival this week and tour the capital city.

Tuesday the band earned superior ratings (the highest rating) in every category but one in State Band

Festival in Jackson. Local businesses, governmental and individual donations paid for most of the \$21,000 in travel expenses.

- A Kiln resident and native is the new Bay St. Louis Municipal Separate School District business manager. Garland T. Cuevas replaces Kelley McQueen of Waveland who recently resigned from the school district position to become Picayune's city clerk.

FORTY YEARS AGO
April 5, 1962 - Rev. John

T. O'Brian, pastor of Our Lady of Good Hope Church in DeLisle for the last seven years, has been appointed pastor of St. Clare's Parish, Waveland, to succeed Rev. Michael J. Costello who resigned effective April 1, after serving the local congregation since its formation July 1, 1919.

- Bay St. Louis amateur boxers put on a surprisingly good showing Friday night, beating Biloxi and Pascagoula in the matches held at the St. Stanislaus

TIME-PAGE 2B

Pottery – Sura, Neale

ketry.

Neale, whose specialty is Raku pottery, explains the history of the two crafts. "Basketmaking is the oldest known craft," she explains. "People used them as containers in gathering and preparation of food. They began to coat the insides of the baskets with mud in an attempt to make them waterproof. Probably some of these containers were placed close to fires and they made the accidental discovery that the fire hardened the clay. That's how the craft of pottery was probably born. So what we're doing isn't anything new – it's actually ancient. We're just throwing a new spin on it."

Linda Sura agrees. "One of the wonderful things about basketry is that it can't be mass produced or manufactured. Every basket is a new adventure.

Raku pottery is equally as variable – no two pieces ever turn out the same. Zahidi and I plan the pieces before we make them, but we're never quite sure what the end result will be. Each is totally one of a kind."

Sura has been immersed in basket-making for over 17 years. Her works are featured in two books, "Making New Baskets" and the "Basket Book for Makers and Collectors". Her baskets will also be included in a third book to be published in 2003.

In addition, Sura is a nationally respected teacher, traveling to workshops around the country to share her knowledge. Her work is also shown in galleries in several states – and she is owner of a basket and gourd supply business in Slidell, Lagniappe Weavers.

Although Sura uses ancient techniques, her con-

temporary creations fly in the face of tradition. To produce the remarkable textures and forms, she uses a variety of fibers, including hand-made paper and copper wire. "The definition of fiber," Sura says, "is a slender thread-like structure that can be woven or spun. That gives me a lot of room to explore."

The same sense of adventure is what keeps Zahidi Neale fascinated with Raku pottery. A potter for over 30 years, Neale completed her first Raku firing in 1976 and has remained devoted to the craft.

Her award-winning work is shown in many galleries and she finds time to teach the technique as well.

"The craft of Raku," Neale says, "was actually inspired by a sound! In the Japanese tea ceremony, they use a whisk to mix the tea in a bowl. In the 13th

century, one member of the royal house decided that he liked the particular sound that the whisk made on thicker, low-fired bowls. He commissioned craftsmen to make him pieces that were beautiful to the eye as well as the ear."

The show "Organic Odyssey" will open April 13 and run through May 10. The artists' reception will be held during the Bay St. Louis 2nd Saturday Artwalk on the evening of the 13 from 5-9.

Both Zahidi Neale and Linda Sura will be on hand to discuss their work and explain techniques. The evening will include live music and refreshments.

Quarter Moon Gallery is located in Old Town at 146 Main Street, next to the courthouse in Bay St. Louis.

For further information, contact Pat Saik, gallery manager, at 228.467.7279.

Continued from Page 1B

Time -- Fr. O'Brian

gymnasium under the co-sponsorship of the Sideline Club and the Jaycees.

Bay boxers won 5 of 7 matches. In the night's feature attraction, Ronnie Peterson of Bay St. Louis, scored a close, hard-fought split decision over Jerry Wise of Pascagoula in the 145-pound clash.

Glenn Blaize won another tight split decision victory in the 155-pound skirmish. Other winners from Bay St. Louis were Frank Batterford, Stanley Weldman and Gerald Chonias.

Following Bay St. Louis' 5-2 record was Pascagoula with a 3-4 record and Biloxi with a 3-5 ledger. Judges for the bouts were Dick Thymes, Bobby Ladner and August Scafidi. The latter two refereed the various matches.

FIFTY YEARS AGO

April 4, 1952 – A meeting of the South Mississippi Wool Growers Association was held at the Hancock County Courthouse in Bay St. Louis on Friday. The meeting was called to order by E.E. Breland, president, at which time he discussed the wool situation which seems unsettled.

He introduced Howard F. Simmons, secretary, who discussed several letters which the association received from wool houses, buyers and State College regarding the situation.

Advertisement – Large Field Grown Camellias, \$1.95 - \$2.50 and \$2.95 ea. Two-Year Old Azaleas, 5 for \$1. Long Pine Nursery, Phone 895, Highway 90 and Carroll Avenue.

SIXTY YEARS AGO

April 3, 1942 – Pine Hills leased by U.S. Government.

Approximately 750 men to be stationed there for the time being. The advanced group of 815 Bn. United States Engineers, numbering some one hundred and fifty men, commanded by Lts. Morris and Abel, arrived at Pine Hills on Monday evening and will be stationed there for the time being.

We understand that the full Battalion numbers about seven hundred and fifty men. They are occupying the former hotel building, (On the Bay of St. Louis).

The following article was received from boys who are stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas: Fort Riley, Kansas, Calvary Replacement Training Center, March 30, (1942). Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, has representation at the nation's only Cavalry replacement training center here.

Four Bay St. Louis resi-

dents are nearing completion of their basic military training. Including in the group are Herbert C. Zingarling, Ernest Milam, Joseph Ziegler and Frank A. Trapani.

The Echo appreciates having received a letter from Sergeant Milton J. Favre of Hq. Co. 2nd Bn. 36th (Armed) Inf. Camp Polk, Louisiana, a copy of which letter is reproduced: "Kind Friends: I wish to express my sincere thanks to you and your staff for sending your paper to the men in armed forces of the United States. I am sure there isn't a man who does not join in with me in thanking you. I remain, Respectfully, yours, Sgt. Milton J. Favre."

Sgt. Favre is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Alphonse B. Favre of Waveland.

Continued from Page 1B

Saturday -- Artwalk is back

her technique in front of the gallery during the Artwalk from 4 to 7 p.m.

DAB-OV-AL JEWELS AND UPSTAIRS GALLERY, 138 Main St. (228-466-4770) brings the natural beauty and unique creative designs of high quality fine estate jewelry – rubies, emeralds and diamonds.

They also offer the latest designs of master craftsman in fine crystal art glass that doubles as stemware. Enjoy the one-of-a-kind signed art

glass from Italy, France and the United States – hand-cut crystal compotes, stemware and vases.

The Upstairs Gallery hosts three award-winning (nationally and internationally) artists – Lou Jordan, watercolorist, Phil Hubbel, watercolorist and Victoria Lennen, mixed media.

Downstairs the paintings continue with the beautiful watercolor, pastel and oil scenes of Mississippi swamps, bayous and various Southern scenes by Mai

Sanders of Bay St. Louis.

Sory Yager, also of Bay St. Louis, has several mixed media works in the gallery. Mai Sanders will be demonstrating her talent in pastels on Second Saturday 5-8 p.m. Refreshments will be offered.

C'B'S COFFEE HOUSE, 200 B North Beach Blvd. (228-466-6622) invites you to join them for an evening of live entertainment.

Enjoy the artistry of Louisiana blues musician Kevin Koike. The music will

be super, the coffee delicious, and the atmosphere relaxing and friendly.

Peoples Bank will sponsor the band Bo and Dee playing on Beach Blvd.

For information, call chairman Richie Zitzmann, 228-467-6870.

Lains

Quantico, Va., then moved to Winter Park, Fla. to continue working as a graphic designer. She moved back to the Gulf Coast where she works at Stennis Space Center as a designer and multi-media artist. Along the way she has won several awards in international computer competitions, and her works have been featured on several AMI magazine covers. Recent poster designs using her painting

style combined with computer graphics won two Addy awards on the Gulf Coast.

Angela has varied painting interests, from paper and canvas, to wall murals. Her painted work provides

an outlet for creativity, after being limited by the technical constraints of computer illustration. The show at Serenity will feature oil and acrylic, using bright colors in an abstract impressionistic style.

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Continued from Page 1B

There have been reports of serious adverse reactions, including death, in patients taking Meridia. The Food and Drug Administration has been petitioned to remove Meridia from the market. You may have a legal claim which you need to protect.

For a free consultation, please call:
McCallum & Methvin, P.C.
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Toll Free 1-(800) 733-0004

Free background information available upon request

ATTENTION: USERS OF THE DIET DRUG MERIDIA (also known by the generic name, Sibutramine)

If you have been prescribed the diet drug Meridia (also known by the generic name, Sibutramine), you may have a legal claim.

There have been reports of serious adverse reactions, including death, in patients taking Meridia. The Food and Drug Administration has been petitioned to remove Meridia from the market. You may have a legal claim which you need to protect.

For a free consultation, please call:
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Attorneys at Law
Toll Free 1-(800) 733-0004

Free background information available upon request

extensive travel experiences in Central and South America and the Caribbean.

Sharing his craft, Simmons has conducted workshops for public viewing and has worked with the public school system. He has also taught at the community college level.

Currently, Simmons works from the Bay Area Artist Cooperative, at 415 Necaise Ave. in Bay St. Louis.

The show "Raku & Functional Stoneware" will continue at Loft Studios through May 10. For more information, call 467-7993.

Simmons
Continued from Page 1B

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Currently, Simmons works from the Bay Area Artist Cooperative, at 415 Necaise Ave. in Bay St. Louis.

The show "Raku & Functional Stoneware" will continue at Loft Studios through May 10. For more information, call 467-7993.

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Continued from Page 1B

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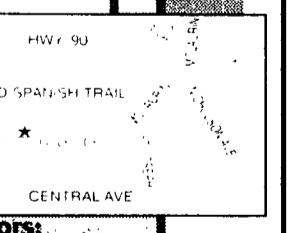
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SPORTS

Wal-Mart Bass Fishing League to visit Bay St. Louis

The \$7 million Wal-Mart Bass Fishing League for weekend anglers will visit Bay St. Louis April 13 for the third of five Gulf Coast Division events.

Up to 400 of the region's best anglers will be vying for top awards of up to \$5,000 cash in the Boater Division and up to \$2,500 cash in the Co-angler Division at the tournament weigh-in, which will be held at Casino Magic Marina beginning at 3 p.m.

The Tensaw River will host the Gulf Coast Division's fourth tournament May 18.

The division's two-day Super Tournament will be held Sept. 28-29 on the Pearl River.

Following the end of regular season competition, the top 30 Gulf Coast Division boaters and co-anglers will advance to regional competition on Lake Hamilton near Hot Springs, Ark., Oct. 29-Nov. 2, where they will go up against top competitors from the Louisiana, Okie and Ozark Divisions.

Boaters will compete for a new Chevy truck and a Ranger boat powered by Evinrude or Yamaha, while co-anglers fish for a new

Ranger boat powered by Evinrude or Yamaha.

Anglers who enter all five regular season Gulf Coast Division tournaments but do not advance to the regional can fish the Chevy Trucks Wild Card Regional Nov. 5-9 for a shot at the 2003 Wal-Mart BFL All-American championship.

With \$100,000 cash going to the winning boater and \$50,000 cash going to the winning co-angler, the All-American ranks as one of the most lucrative championship tournaments in competitive angling.

Six boaters and six co-anglers from each of the BFL's six regional tournaments will advance to the All-American along with six boaters and six co-anglers from the Chevy Wild Card.

Three boaters and three co-anglers from the Western Regional will also advance to the All-American, boosting the total field to 45 boaters and 45 co-anglers.

The 2002 All-American on Cross Lake near Shreveport, La., June 5-8 will be televised live on PAX TV as part of the FLW Outdoors television series airing Saturdays at 3 p.m.

Nationwide, the BFL is divided into 26 divisions - each featuring four one-day qualifying tournaments and a two-day Super Tournament.

Each Super Tournament will award up to \$9,600 to the winning boater and up to \$4,800 to the winning co-angler.

Under the BFL's boater and co-angler format, boaters supply the boats, fish from the front dock, and control boat movement throughout the competition.

Co-anglers fish from the back deck and are competing against other co-anglers. Two hundred points are awarded to tournament winners, 199 points are presented for second and so on.

These points determine angler standings throughout the season. Every angler who receives weight credit earns points.

Awards for the 2002 BFL season could reach \$7 million based on full fields at each tournament.

Additionally, Ranger Cup participants are eligible to win a \$500 to \$1,000 bonus at each BFL tournament.

Anglers using a fixed-mount Garmin Fishfinder

or GPS/Sounder are also eligible to win a \$1,000 bonus at each BFL tournament as part of the Garmin Grand Giveaway.

As the nation's leading provider of affordable, close-to-home weekend tournaments, the BFL is widely credited with a stepping-stone for anglers who wish to advance to the opening competitive bass fishing to the masses.

It also serves as a stepping-stone for anglers who wish to advance to the EverStart Series and ultimately the Wal-Mart FLW Tour - bass fishing's most lucrative tournament series.

Each year the top 30 BFL boaters and co-angler from each division are eligible to advance to the EverStart Series.

All-American champions are eligible for Wal-Mart FLW Tour competition.

The top 10 pros and co-anglers from each of the EverStart Series' three divisions are eligible to advance to the Wal-Mart FLW Tour.

Former BFL anglers who have become fishing superstars on the Wal-Mart FLW Tour include de Kellogg's pro Clark Wendlandt,

the Wal-Mart Bass Fishing League.

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SSC's Lewis wins Mobile's Meet of Champions

BY JOSEPH W. GEX II

Staff Writer

St. Stanislaus sophomore track star Kyle Lewis recently competed in and won the prestigious Mobile Meet of Champions title in the 3200m run.

His first place finish was the highest finish of any Coast athlete competing on Friday, in the open division. Lewis won the event in 9:58.00 which was a personal best time. It was also the first time that Lewis has run a sub-10 minute 3200m race. Lewis also competed in the 1600m run which he placed ninth out of 33 runners with a personal best time of 4:38.00.

SSC head track and field coach Steve Flannery stat-

ed, "It is important for runners to compete against top competition to improve. This was an opportunity to run against some of the best around. This was the first time that Kyle Lewis was pushed since the state finals last season. All our runners that we brought to the meet ran as well as they have all season. But, Kyle Lewis rose up to the challenge."

Other SSC runners that competed were senior sprinter Cheick Sanankoua, senior sprinter Brian Butler, senior hurdler Logan Walker, and senior middle distance runner Brent Acker.

Sanankoua competed in the 200m dash and placed eighth out of 36 runners

with a personal best time of 23.40.

Walker placed ninth in the 300m intermediate hurdles out of 31 runners. Acker and Butler both competed in the 400m dash with Acker finishing 12th and Butler 30th out of 37 runners. Acker also competed in the 800m run and finished 26th out of 35 runners.

Former BFL anglers who have become fishing superstars on the Wal-Mart FLW Tour include de Kellogg's pro Clark Wendlandt,

Anglers using a fixed-mount Garmin Fishfinder

different schools across the southeastern region encompassing the states of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Florida, Tennessee, and Georgia.

Ball games rescheduled for today due to rain

Pearl River Community College's women's South Division softball double-header with Jones set for Tuesday has been rescheduled for Thursday due to wet conditions. The key division twin bill matching 11-3 PRCC -- tied for first in the league race with Mississippi Gulf Coast -- with the Lady Bobcats will start at 1 p.m. on the Lady Wildcat diamond.

Pearl River plays a doubleheader with Mississippi Gulf Coast in Perkinston Saturday beginning at 1 p.m.

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Schmidt & McCordland Firm, PLLC
810 East River Place, Suite 604
Jackson, Mississippi 39202
Vicki L. Gilliam, Attorney
schmidt@schmidtlaw.com

CALL TOLL FREE 1-800-432-0341

Knights of Columbus Pass Christian Fishing Rodeo is May 4 and 5

The Knights of Columbus Council in Pass Christian, Msgr Leach Council #4472 a non-profit organization designated 501(c)3 by the Internal Revenue Service, will host its annual Family Fishing Rodeo on Saturday, May 4, and Sunday, May 5, at the Pass Christian West Harbor.

The community event will feature food, drinks and fun, as well as trophies and prizes for several categories of fish plus door prizes. A 13-inch color TV/VCR will be given away.

While attendance for the day is free, tickets to participate in the rodeo and prize drawings are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. Additionally, a valid Mississippi fishing license is required.

The Council has the full support of the City of Pass Christian and will have Marlin Ladner as King Fisherman. The fishing rodeo will be an event the

whole family can participate in and enjoy.

For more information, contact Warren B. Doussan, Sr., at (228) 452-9930.

The Rules

1. Only pre-registered contestants will be eligible for awards. Registration can be accomplished by purchasing a ticket from one of the K of C members ahead of the event or at the registration on Friday, May 4 (from 3 p.m. to dusk) or on Saturday, May 5 (from dawn to 9 a.m.) Friday and Saturday registration will take place at the Pass Christian West Harbor.

2. Must have a valid Mississippi fishing license as required by law. (Can be purchased on site at time of registration).

3. Fish must be legally caught in a sporting manner on rod, reel and line or pole and line and hooked with any legal hook or lure. Fish must be hooked, fought and brought to net or gaff

with no help from any person, except that another person may operate the net or gaff. Flounders may be gugged.

4. Fish must be weighed at the official weigh master scale. The weighing must take place in the presence of two witnesses. Witnesses to the weight and the catch must not be the same person.

5. Weigh Master's decision is final.

6. Scales open Saturday at 1 p.m. and will close at 6 p.m. sharp. They will reopen on Sunday at 10 a.m. and close at noon sharp. Anyone standing in line at this time for weighing will be accepted.

Prize Category

Salt Water:

Red Fish
Speckled Trout
Flounder - Gigging permitted on Flounders
Cobia (Lemon Fish)
Croaker

Fresh Water:

Bass
Cat Fish
Perch
Bream/Perch

Trophies and prizes will be awarded for first place for largest fish by weight in each category and second place for second largest fish by weight in each category.

There will be a prize for

the biggest fish by weight of any species.

Additional prizes will be awarded at various times during the day through a raffle.

Winner need not be present. A raffle ticket will be attached to each adult registration.

Additional raffle tickets can be purchased for \$1 at

any time up to the drawing. There will be drawings during the day of the rodeo for assorted prizes.

Prices for rodeo participation are: Children 12 and under \$5, adults \$10.

For those who wish to donate their catch, there will be a representative present to accept the fish and to clean them.

Buy hunting/fishing licenses over Internet

For many people, the days of waiting in line to get hunting and fishing licenses is over, according to the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks.

"Hunters and anglers can now purchase their licenses over the Internet," said Deputy Administrator Al Tuck.

"This is just another step in Mississippi's E-Government effort to make state government services

more available to our people."

Last month, wildlife officials offered state sportsmen the option of renewing their boat registrations on line over the Internet.

To buy hunting and fishing licenses over the Internet, customers must provide their driver's license number and have a valid VISA or MasterCard credit card.

In addition, if they were

born on or after Jan. 1, 1972, they must provide a hunter education certification number. At the end of the transaction, hunters and anglers will be given a temporary license number to use while hunting and fishing until the original license arrives in the mail.

Tuck said that the agency has taken the necessary means to assure privacy and security for those transactions.

PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with Section 7-7-213, Miss. Code Ann. (1972), notice is hereby given that a copy of the 2000 audit of Hancock County is on file in the Chancery Clerk's office of Hancock County.

In accordance with Section 7-7-221, Miss. Code Ann. (1972), the following synopsis of the Hancock County audit for fiscal year ending 9-30-00 is provided in the format prescribed by the State Auditor:

Revenues	10-01-99 to 9-30-00	\$18,929,164.00
Expenditures	10-01-99 to 9-30-00	\$20,744,367.00
Cash & Investments at	9-30-00	\$14,968,738.00

A copy of the audit report containing all findings and recommendations as well as exceptions, if applicable, can be obtained for five dollars by writing to the Office of the State Auditor, Post Office Box 956, Jackson, MS 39205.

A copy of the audit report is also on file and available for public inspection at the Hancock County library.

In accordance with Section 31-7-115, Miss. Code Ann. (1972), the audit report of the county purchase clerk and inventory control clerk is published:



State of Mississippi

OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR
PHIL BRYANT
AUDITOR

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON CENTRAL PURCHASING SYSTEM,
INVENTORY CONTROL SYSTEM AND PURCHASE CLERK SCHEDULES
(REQUIRED BY SECTION 31-7-115, MISS. CODE ANN. (1972))

January 14, 2002

Members of the Board of Supervisors
Hancock County, Mississippi

We have made a study and evaluation of the central purchasing system and inventory control system of Hancock County, Mississippi, as of and for the year ended September 30, 2000. Our study and evaluation included tests of compliance of the Purchase Clerk and Inventory Control Clerk records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

The Board of Supervisors of Hancock County, Mississippi, is responsible for establishing and maintaining a central purchasing system and inventory control system in accordance with Sections 31-7-101 through 31-7-127, Miss. Code Ann. (1972). In addition, the Board of Supervisors is responsible for purchasing in accordance with the bid requirements of Section 31-7-13, Miss. Code Ann. (1972). The Board of Supervisors of Hancock County, Mississippi, has established centralized purchasing for all funds of the county and has established an inventory control system. The objective of the central purchasing system is to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that purchases are executed in accordance with state law.

The county did not maintain adequate subsidiary records documenting the existence, completeness and valuation of general fixed assets.

Because of inherent limitations in any central purchasing system and inventory control system, errors or irregularities may occur and not be detected. Also, projection of any evaluation of the system to future periods is subject to the risk that procedures may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or that the degree of compliance with the procedures may deteriorate.

The results of our audit procedures disclosed certain instances of noncompliance with the aforementioned code sections. These instances of noncompliance were considered in forming our opinion on compliance. Our findings and recommendations and your responses are disclosed below:

Inventory Control Clerk.

1. Finding

Section 7-7-211, Miss. Code Ann. (1972), gives the Office of the State Auditor the authority to prescribe accounting systems. As reported in the prior years' audit reports, the Inventory Control Clerk did not maintain an accurate inventory or adequate subsidiary records documenting the existence, completeness and valuation of general fixed assets as prescribed in the *Mississippi County Financial Accounting Manual*.

Recommendation

The Inventory Control Clerk should maintain accurate inventory records documenting the existence, completeness and valuation of general fixed assets.

Inventory Control Clerk's Response

We will comply with this.

2. Finding

Section 31-7-124, Miss. Code Ann. (1972), requires the Inventory Control Clerk to execute a bond for \$75,000. The Inventory Control Clerk was not bonded.

Recommendation

The Inventory Control Clerk should execute a bond for \$75,000.

Inventory Control Clerk's Response

This has been corrected.

3. Finding

Section 31-7-107, Miss. Code Ann. (1972), requires inventory reports to be filed with the Board of Supervisors, in triplicate, with copies forwarded to the Office of the State Auditor no later than October 15th of each year. The required reports were not filed.

Recommendation

The Inventory Control Clerk should file the inventory reports when required each year.

Inventory Control Clerk's Response

We will comply with this.

In our opinion, except as explained in the third paragraph and except for the noncompliance referred to in the preceding paragraph, Hancock County, Mississippi, complied, in all material respects, with state laws governing central purchasing, inventory and bid requirements.

The accompanying schedules of (1) purchases not made from the lowest bidder, (2) emergency purchases and (3) purchases made noncompetitively from a sole source are presented in accordance with Section 31-7-115, Miss. Code Ann. (1972). The information contained on these schedules has been subjected to procedures performed in connection with our aforementioned study and evaluation of the purchasing system and, in our opinion, is fairly presented when considered in relation to that study and evaluation.

This report is intended for use in evaluating the central purchasing system and inventory control system of Hancock County, Mississippi, and is not intended to be and should not be relied upon for any other purpose.

PHIL BRYANT

State Auditor

RAMONA HILL, CPA.

Director, Financial and Compliance Audit Division

Schedule 1

HANCOCK COUNTY
Schedule of Purchases Not Made From the Lowest Bidder
For the Year Ended September 30, 2000

Date	Item Purchased	Bid Accepted	Vendor	Lowest Bid	Reasons for Accepting Other Than the Lowest Bid
06-27-00	Computer	\$14,979	Gulf Coast Mall	\$12,768	Lowest bid did not meet specifications.

Schedule 2

HANCOCK COUNTY
Schedule of Emergency Purchases
For the Year Ended September 30, 2000

Date	Item Purchased	Amount Paid	Vendor	Reasons for Emergency Purchase
10-12-99	Car window	\$107	Dunaway Glass	Rain was in the forecast.
12-07-99	Electrical wire	\$485	Aaron Wilkerson	Wire was torn off house by county dump truck.
12-22-99	Repairs on roof leak	\$270	Carriere Stumm	Rain was leaking in roof.
02-02-00	Freezer condenser	\$1,906	Geiger	Condenser went out on main freezer.
03-01-00	Air conditioner unit	\$4,055	Geiger	Air conditioning was needed for security purposes.
03-06-00	Card for computer	\$1,610	Anderson Consultants	Office was not operable without computer.
03-09-00	IBM 43P	\$2,990	National Data	Office was not operable without computer.
03-27-00	Terminal adapter	\$4,770	Anderson Consultants	Office was not operable without computer.
04-12-00	Repairs on fire truck	\$9,000	Puckett Machinery	Fire truck was needed.
04-19-00	Replace glass	\$125	Dixie Glass	Glass was broken.
05-25-00	Outboard motor	\$6,000	Jack's Marine Service	Motor was needed for safety of citizens.
06-28-00	Window unit	\$660	Marp's A/C	Air conditioning was needed.
07-19-00	Windshield	\$258	Dunaway Glass	Rain was in the forecast.
07-27-00	Officer training	\$680	U.S.M. Gulf Park	A cancellation allowed for an officer's training before the next board meeting was scheduled.
09-12-00	Repairs on roof leak	\$42,589	Carriere Stumm	The records were getting wet.
09-26-00	E-911 repairs	\$1,300	Team One Communication	Lightning struck E-911 system.

Schedule 3

HANCOCK COUNTY
Schedule of Purchases Made Noncompetitively From a Sole Source
For the Year Ended September 30, 2000

Our test results did not identify any purchases made noncompetitively from a sole source.

HANCOCK COUNTY

Schedule of Findings

For the Year Ended September 30, 2000

Inventory Control Clerk.

00-5. Finding

As reported in the prior years' audit reports, the Inventory Control Clerk did not maintain an accurate inventory or adequate subsidiary records documenting the existence, completeness and valuation of general fixed assets as prescribed in the *Mississippi County Financial Accounting Manual*.

Recommendation

The Inventory Control Clerk should maintain accurate inventory records documenting the existence, completeness and valuation of general fixed assets.

Inventory Control Clerk's Response

We will comply with this.

</

THE SEA COAST ECHO

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2002 • 5B

Wildcats sweep Bengals in baseball

Pearl River Community College swept LSU-Eunice 5-4 and 9-3 Saturday in Poplarville to improve to 23-7 on the season.

The victories pushed the Wildcats to a 6-1 record in Region XXIII play, while LSUE dropped to 15-9 overall and 1-6 in regional play.

In the first game, PRCC went up 3-0 in the bottom of the first off a walk, an RBI single by Jeff Middleton of Mobile, and a two-RBI double by Blake Munna of Poplarville. The Bengals grabbed their first run in the top of the second off singles by John Bernhard and Sam Alphonse and the Wildcats only error of the game.

In the bottom of the third, Middleton and Munna walked, with Middleton scoring on a fielder's choice to make it 4-1. Jabrell Cook of Hattiesburg High sacrificed in the second run to make it 4-2.

In the top of the fourth, LSUE's Larry Besse walked, then Cody Carrier

reached after being hit by a pitch. Matt Matis followed with an RBI single to make it 5-2.

The Bengals made it scarey in the top of the seventh, cutting the Wildcats' lead to one with two runs off a wild pitch and a walk.

Jered Salazar (6-3) of Lafayette, La., picked up the win in his six innings on the mound, striking out four, walking two, and hitting one batter. Josh O'Flynn of Petal, Collin Smith of Baton Rouge, and Jonathan Mitcham of North Forrest all saw relief duty in the seventh.

Daniel Callendar (2-3) was the losing pitcher, striking out six and walking two.

Salazar paced PRCC's five-hit effort with a double, while Middleton, Munna, Jake Smith of Picayune High, and Justin Gros of Oak Grove all singled.

In the nightcap, LSUE

grabbed a 2-0 lead in the top of the second when Josh Wells reached via an error and Brad Smith doubled, setting the stage for Nile

Landry's RBI single. Smith later scored on a wild pitch.

PRCC retaliated in the bottom of the third with four runs off a two singles and a three-run homer by Eric Adkins of Purvis, who has belted eight round trippers thus far this season.

Pearl River wasn't finished just yet. Middleton singled, Salazar doubled, and Munna singled, setting the stage for an RBI single by Jared Harris of Poplarville.

In the bottom of the sixth, Adkins belted an RBI double to make it 8-2, then Rhett Shaffette of Picayune High finished the Wildcats' scoring with an RBI single.

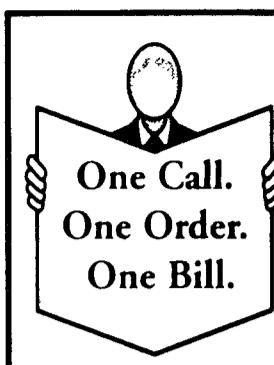
The Bengals salvaged a solo run in the top of the final frame with back-to-back singles, followed by an RBI sacrifice by Rusty Crosslin, who played for the Wildcat team last season before transferring to LSUE.

Chris Thompson (7-2) of Mobile picked up the win in going the distance, striking out six and walking five, while Besse (1-1) was the

losing pitcher in going three-and-one-thirds innings, striking out two and walking none. Corey Conrad relieved in the fourth, Josh Wells in the sixth, and Shawn Guarisco in the seventh.

Munna paced PRCC's 12-hit attack with a double and two singles, while Adkins homered and singled. Middleton, Cook, Smith, and Brad Wood of Oak Grove all singled.

Its more league action Saturday when Mississippi Gulf Coast plays host in a 1 p.m. doubleheader in Perkinston.



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Golf tourney to aid Boys & Girls Clubs

Members of the Pass Christian Unit of the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast will host the 3rd annual Pass Christian Unit Golf Tournament at The Oaks Golf Club, Thursday and Friday, May 2-3.

The purpose of the event is to raise funds for the Pass Christian unit. This year's event differs slightly as 9-Hole Individual Tournament is being added on Thursday night.

The event is scheduled as follows:

• Thursday, May 2: 3:30 p.m. Shotgun, 9-Hole Individual Tournament, followed by cookout and prizes.

• Friday, May 3: 18-Hole "Shamble" (best ball off tee, play your own ball the remainder of the hole, best net and gross score on each hole added for team score). Lunch and drinks provided.

Sponsorship and player opportunities are:

• Titanium Sponsor \$2,500: 4 players for both days, hole sponsor with 36" x 48" banner

• Gold Sponsor \$1,500: 4 players for both days, hole sponsor with 24" x 36" banner

• Silver Sponsor \$400: 18" x 24" greens sign

• Bronze Sponsor \$200: 12" x 18" greens sign

• Signature Board Sponsor: Name on Signature Board

• Play Thursday and Friday - \$125 per player
• Play Thursday only - \$40 per player
• Play Friday only - \$100 per player

The entry fees cover green fees, golf cart, lunch, sticks and beverages.

Community residents rallied together in support of the Pass Christian Club in the former Middle School on Clark Street. The Club, which opened in June 2000, is open to all youths ages 6-18 and provides after school and summer programs.

Those interested in participating or supporting the tournament, please contact Duane Wilson at 255-2180 or the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast at 374-2330.

Tigers down East Central in tennis

The Bay High School Tigers ran their season record to 7-1 with win over the East Central Hornets Tuesday in tennis action.

In boys singles, Gabe Noyes won 6-2, 6-0; in girls singles, Stephanie Reed prevailed 6-1, 6-0; Johnny Hozev and Daniel Stanton today.

lost in boys doubles, 0-6, 1-6; Katie Benvenuti and Kelly Calahan won in girls doubles, 6-2, 6-7, 6-3; and in mixed doubles, Marquez Singleton and Jacqueline Fouasan won 6-2, 6-2.

Bay High will host the Pass Christian Pirates today.

Wahl leads Stanislaus on the links at meet

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO

The St. Stanislaus golf team recently participated in two tournaments. The Rocks won a four-team tournament at the Diamondhead Pine Course on March 28 with a team score of 170. St. John High School placed second with 175 followed by Hancock at

176 and Biloxi at 182.

James Wahl shot a par 36 to lead SSC.

In earlier action, Wahl shot a 38 for low medalist honors to lead SSC in the PRC Invitational. The Rocks placed third overall in the tournament held at Millbrook Country Club in Picayune.

Recreational red snapper season

Recreational fishing season for red snapper (*Lutjanus campechanus*) opens in Mississippi territorial waters April 21 at 12:01 a.m. This coincides with the opening of red snapper season in federal waters.

Mississippi State regulations for red snapper are:

- 16-inch minimum size
- four fish possession

The federal quota, set by the National Marine Fisheries Services, is 4.47 million pounds.



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30 Lost and Found

LOST DOG - REWARD! BLACK & tan color, mixed breed. Young male. Big as small German Shepherd. Collar with Pass Christian number. Call 467-4132

36 Special Notices

13th ANNUAL RIVER REEFS CRAWFISH Cook-off April 20, 2002. At Hwy 603 & Jordan River

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\$2.99
100oz
Bottle

**Jiffy Corn
Muffin Mix**
\$1.49
6 Pack
8.5oz Box

**Long Grain
Carmen
Rice**
99¢
5LB. Bag

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